

I support the FISTS proposal as a realistic compromise on the issue of Morse Code, however I believe that the speed for Extra class licenses should be 20 WPM.

I also believe that acceptance of the argument of the "no code" proponents that intelligent, qualified, and skilled operators being held from Amateur Radio by the Morse Exam requires some proof of concept beyond merely removing the exam as a requirement. For example, I believe that Element 1 should be replaced by a serious test of knowledge in computer technology, digital modulation techniques, and binary number theory. As represented over the years by No Code International and others, those "qualified" gurus who were ready to add so much to the hobby if we removed Morse, would have no trouble passing such a test.

As for the rest of the population, I submit that the FCC should permit Code tests to be used in lieu of the digital communications theory test so that those so inclined to enter the service in a more traditional manner can do so.

Len Umina
WT6G